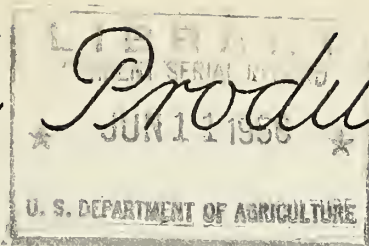


Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



Crop Production



April 10, 1956
3:00 P.M. (E.S.T.)

CROP PRODUCTION REPORT, APRIL 1, 1956

The Crop Reporting Board of the Agricultural Marketing Service makes the following report for the United States from data furnished by crop correspondents, field statisticians, and cooperating State agencies.

YEAR	WINTER WHEAT			RYE	PASTURE
	Percent 1/	Yield per	Production	CONDITION	CONDITION
	not harvested:	seeded acre:	(1,000	APRIL 1	APRIL 1
	for grain :	(bushels) :	bushels) :	(percent) :	(percent)
Average 1945-54	13.1	15.9	872,635	86	82
1955	24.1	15.9	705,372	83	75
1956	<u>2/</u> 17.7	<u>2/</u> 15.9	<u>2/</u> 716,477	82	73

GRAIN STOCKS ON FARMS ON APRIL 1

CROP	Average 1945-54		1955		1956	
	Percent :	1,000	Percent :	1,000	Percent :	1,000
	<u>3/</u>	bushels :	<u>3/</u>	bushels :	<u>3/</u>	bushels
Corn for grain..	46.3	1,302,876	53.2	1,425,743	51.7	1,476,965
Wheat.....	19.5	224,708	21.5	211,592	23.3	218,850
Oats.....	37.1	491,266	36.3	551,570	37.3	588,277
Barley.....	28.7	77,021	31.5	116,721	29.6	115,784
Rye.....	18.2	3,850	33.0	8,021	38.5	11,245
Flaxseed.....	<u>4/</u> 22.8	<u>4/</u> 8,759	33.7	13,746	19.1	7,757
Soybeans.....	17.5	42,153	33.4	113,914	16.2	59,982

- 1/ Percent of seeded acreage.
- 2/ Indicated April 1, 1956.
- 3/ Percent of previous year's crop.
- 4/ Short-time average.

U. S. D E P A R T M E N T O F A G R I C U L T U R E
Agricultural Marketing Service
Crop Reporting Board
Washington, D. C.

CITRUS FRUITS ^{1/}

CROP	PRODUCTION			
	Average	1953	1954	Indicated
	1944-53			1955
	Thousand boxes			
Oranges and Tangerines...	116,346	130,870	135,445	136,115
Grapefruit,.....	49,262	48,370	42,170	46,000
Lemons.....	13,001	16,130	14,000	13,500

^{1/} Season begins with the bloom of the year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year.

MILK AND EGG PRODUCTION

MONTH	MILK			EGGS		
	Average	1955	1956	Average	1955	1956
	1945-54			1945-54		
	Million pounds			Millions		
February	8,223	8,835	9,582	5,029	4,897	5,152
March	9,739	10,486	11,024	6,176	5,735	5,770
Jan. -Mar. Incl.	26,344	28,484	30,210	16,032	15,866	16,083

APPROVED:



ACTING SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

CROP REPORTING BOARD:

S. R. Newell, Chairman,	
F. J. Graham, Acting Secretary,	
R. K. Smith,	R. Royston,
C. E. Burkhead,	G. Butler,
J. W. Kirkbride,	T. J. Kuzelka,
J. L. Wilson,	H. C. Phillips,
C. D. Stevens,	J. A. Ewing,
D. W. Barrowman,	J. G. Thomas, Jr.

GENERAL CROP REPORT, AS OF APRIL 1, 1956

Farming waited its chance over much of the Nation during the past month while changeable March weather readjusted the crop calendar. Wheat fields in the central and southern Great Plains waited for rain while drought and high winds threatened crop survival. Many northern fields waited under winter cold while recurring heavy snowfall brought protective covering and added moisture. Early peaches in southern States got serious but varying freeze damage after venturing into full bloom. Tender truck crops were killed and growth of hardier crops halted.

March weather reverses, however, are by no means decisive in comparison with influences yet to come. In each instance they appear to be less severe than early reverses of last year which were overcome; final harvests reached a new high in over-all yield per acre and near record total outturn. Prospects for irrigation water weakened for some areas in the Southwest but elsewhere are much above average. Soils in some important Corn Belt sections are still dangerously dry for this season.

Winter wheat prospects declined during March in driest parts of the central and southern Great Plains. But despite the dust storms which attracted national attention to this area and took out some fields, much wheat in the Great Plains on April 1 was still holding on with possibility of smaller abandonment than last year should rains come soon. Optimism for wheat east of the Mississippi River is supported by good winter survival and the present condition and generally favorable soil moisture. Some southern fields, however, have not overcome a slow fall start. Some acreage in Washington and Oregon may have been so badly damaged by early winter freezes or soil erosion that reseeding to spring grains may be necessary. The April 1 forecast of 716 million bushels for the national winter wheat crop is about 3 percent below the December 1 appraisal. Weather could make or break the crop on many Great Plains fields within the next month.

Supplies of feed grains on farms April 1 are plentiful and generally well distributed by areas. Corn stocks of 1,477 million bushels on farms are nearly 4 percent larger than last year and 13 percent above average. Oats stocks of 588 million bushels are record high for the date--nearly a fifth above average following the record 1955 crop. Barley stocks of 116 million bushels are only slightly less than last year and second largest since 1943.

Wheat remaining on farms April 1 is estimated at 219 million bushels, about 3 percent more than a year earlier and about the same amount below average. Rye stocks at 11 million bushels are largest in 13 years. Flaxseed stocks on farms of nearly 8 million bushels are only slightly more than half those a year earlier and a tenth less than average. Soybean stocks of 60 million bushels are little more than half last year's record holdings, reflecting rapid disappearance of the record 1955 crop.

"It's a late spring," say reporters in most areas, especially in the North. Even so, farm work and crop affairs made some progress in March and now are ready for rapid advance when warm weather and dry soils permit. In Texas, most land intended for spring row crops has been prepared even

though many plantings have been delayed for the rain needed for even seed germination. Cotton in this State's Lower Valley and Coastal Bend sections is growing well and some corn is up as far north as the Red River. Cotton planting is starting in southern Alabama and Georgia and is well along in Arizona. Harvest of winter crop sugar beets will start soon in the Imperial Valley of California. In the central States, spring grain seeding moved ahead swiftly where soils were dry. By early April, oats seeding was generally completed in Missouri, 60 percent completed in Illinois and moving well along in central portions of Iowa and Nebraska. But the heavy snowfall and cold weather stalled operations in many northern locations. In Northeastern States, the earliest crop harvest--collection of maple sap--was greatly hindered by stormy weather with resulting loss in production prospects.

Hay and forage crop growth has been slowed by cold weather but in most sections east of the Mississippi River prospects are good for later growth. Lack of soil moisture in much of the central plains, southern plains and southwest, unless relieved, may notably shorten hay crops and may seriously curtail future grazing. The national pasture condition at 73 percent of normal is 9 points below average although not far different from the low level reported the past two years. Hay supplies are proving generally adequate for the long winter although local and sectional shortages have occurred. New crop alfalfa hay is now being made in California's Imperial and San Joaquin Valleys and in the Salt River Valley of Arizona. In range areas, livestock have been maintained by feed but many are now in below average condition.

The peach crop in the 10 southern States suffered severe but varying freeze damage during March although much less than last year's almost complete kill. Damage was spotty, depending much on air drainage of orchard location. Below average crops are now expected in all southern States except Arkansas, Oklahoma and Florida.

Citrus crops for the 1955-56 season continue to furnish adequate supplies. The total orange crop is about 1 percent above the previous season, the grapefruit crop about 9 percent larger, but the California lemon crop is somewhat smaller. Rainfall was light during the past month in citrus sections of both Florida and California with growing conditions none too favorable. Larger portions of both orange and grapefruit crops remained to be harvested after April 1 than a year earlier.

Production of spring vegetables is expected to reach a larger total than last year even though March growing conditions in southeastern States were generally unfavorable. Low precipitation in Texas and below normal temperatures in California also slowed vegetable growth. However, larger acreages and some higher yields indicate considerably larger spring crops of cabbage, lettuce, and onions and somewhat more beets, celery and shallots. Smaller crops than last year are expected for early spring asparagus; early and mid-spring snap beans, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, green peas, green peppers, spinach and tomatoes.

This year's planted acreage of 5 important vegetables for commercial processing is about 10 percent larger than last year. Large increases are indicated for cabbage for kraut and sweet corn and moderate to smaller increases for green peas, snap beans and early spring spinach.

Milk production during March was 5 percent above March last year. The per cow milk flow on April 1 in crop reporters' herds also exceeded by 5 percent the previous high for the date set last year. Record output per cow for April 1 was reported for all regions of the country and a record percentage of cows in herd were being milked for the date. Record rates of grain and concentrate feeding in almost all areas more than offset effects of unfavorable weather.

March egg production was about 7 percent less than average although slightly larger than March last year. On April 1, there were 1 percent fewer layers on farms than a year earlier; a slight increase in rates of lay over last year in all parts of the country except North Atlantic States more than offset the decrease in layers. There were about 5 percent more chicks and young chickens of this year's hatch on farms on April 1 than last year. The total hatch will be influenced by the level of operations after this date.

WINTER WHEAT: Winter wheat conditions on April 1 indicated a crop of 716 million bushels. This would be 2 percent larger than the 1955 crop of 705 million bushels but 18 percent less than average. Declines from the prospective production as of December 1 in Oklahoma and Colorado and in several of the important wheat producing States of the Corn Belt, and the Pacific Northwest more than offset improved production prospects in Texas, South Dakota, Idaho, Wyoming, and several minor producing States.

This has resulted in a decline of 19 million bushels from the December 1 forecast. The indicated yield at 15.9 bushels per seeded acre is the same as the 1955 and 10-year average yields. The current estimate is based on an appraisal of the April 1 condition of wheat as reported by individual growers and on soil moisture reserves and other factors affecting crop production. The current estimate of production assumes normal weather, insect and disease conditions for the remainder of the crop season. Damage due to dry soil conditions and high winds or beneficial effects of moisture received after April 1 are not reflected in the estimate of production or acreage remaining for harvest.

Total abandonment and diversion to uses other than grain is indicated at 8 million acres, 17.7 percent of the total acreage seeded for all purposes last fall and winter. This is slightly less than the percent indicated last December. Of the 8 million-acre total, 5.6 million acres are in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Colorado. For the United States last year, 10.7 million acres or 24.1 percent of the total acreage seeded were lost or diverted.

In the important wheat States in the Central and Southern Plains area, wheat prospects remained about the same as on December 1. Scattered amounts of precipitation received during the winter months enabled plants to "hold on" over much of the area; however, depletion of moisture

supplies has resulted in heavy abandonment in local areas. Timely rainfall will be needed in the Plains States if a "crop" is to be realized. Dust storms have been numerous over much of this area during late winter months but damage had not been extensive to April 1, being confined largely to local areas in the Panhandle area of Texas and Oklahoma, southwestern Kansas and eastern areas of Colorado.

From Kentucky and Illinois eastward, winter losses have been average or greater due to cool temperatures and small plant growth though moisture conditions were adequate and some snow cover was generally present in northern areas during periods of extreme cold. Advancement of growth on April 1 was less than usual due to unseasonably cold temperatures during February and March and a relatively heavy snow cover in northern areas during late March.

In Kansas, heaviest loss of acreage has occurred in the southwestern part of the State where about one-third of the crop may be lost to drought and high winds. The westcentral and northwest areas are expected to lose about a fifth of the seeded acreage. Heavy losses have occurred in local areas in northcentral and southcentral Kansas but abandonment is expected to be nominal in the eastern two-thirds of the State.

In Oklahoma and Texas, a critical drought condition exists in the Panhandle area where little effective moisture has been received during the last four months, resulting in heavy abandonment of acreage. In central and eastern Oklahoma, the crop is in fair to good condition. In Texas, acreage losses in the southern Low Rolling Plains and the Plateau have been very heavy with stock being turned into many remaining fields. The northern Low Rolling Plains and north Texas wheat is jointing and has fair to good prospects, though needing rain on April 1.

Winter wheat prospects in Nebraska remained about the same as December 1 though dry weather has prevailed during recent months. Wheat in the western part of the State was holding on quite well with some blowing in the light sandy soils. Fields in the eastern two-thirds of the State have a good surface appearance but have a limited amount of subsoil moisture.

In Colorado, drought has been the principal cause of loss of acreage though some was lost due to blowing out and drifting. Heaviest loss occurred in counties bordering on Kansas and in a few northcentral counties.

In Washington and Idaho, an unusually heavy snow cover may result in relatively heavy acreage losses due to winter kill, snow mold and flooding or erosion. Much of the crop was still under snow cover on April 1 and the full extent of damage could not yet be determined. In Montana, soil conditions are quite dry in the principal producing area and growth will be hampered unless adequate moisture supplies are received.

In the last 10 years, the average change in the United States production estimate from April 1 to harvest has been 97 million bushels. The maximum change was in 1933 when final production exceeded the April 1 forecast by 167 million bushels. The minimum change was in 1950 when the harvest was 23 million bushels less than the April 1 forecast. For the 1955 crop, final production exceeded the April forecast by 43 million bushels.

WHEAT STOCKS ON FARMS: Wheat stocks on farms--219 million bushels on April 1--were 3 percent larger than a year earlier but 3 percent below average and 16 percent less than the near record holdings on April 1, 1954. Nearly two-thirds of the total wheat on farms April 1 was wheat from the 1955 and earlier crops under Government loans compared with nearly three-fifths a year earlier.

April 1 stocks on farms were smaller than a year earlier in all regions except the West where stocks were more than 50 percent larger than on April 1, 1955. Of the U. S. total, 60 percent was held in the North Central States, with North Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas combined holding 39 percent. In the Western States, stocks were 36 percent of the U. S. total, with Montana holding 24 percent. The North Central and Western Regions account for 96 percent of the total U. S. stocks with Montana, North Dakota, Kansas and Nebraska representing 63 percent of the total.

Disappearance of 102 million bushels from farms during the January-March quarter of 1956 compares with 110 million bushels in the comparable period of 1955 and the average for the quarter of 149 million bushels. Since last July 1, disappearance from farms totaled 758 million bushels, compared with 872 million bushels during the same period a year earlier.

CORN STOCKS ON FARMS: A total of 1,477 million bushels of corn was stored on farms April 1. This was 4 percent more than a year earlier and 13 percent above average. April 1 stocks have varied only about 50 million bushels in the last four years. The 1,477 million bushels on farms April 1 includes corn under CCC farm loan and purchase agreement. On March 15, this totaled about 416 million bushels equal to 28 percent of the corn on farms April 1. The disappearance of 714 million bushels during the January-March quarter was the largest since 1952--7 percent greater than in the same period last year, but 5 percent smaller than the average of 755 million bushels. Disappearance was above a year earlier in all regions except the West North Central.

Farm stocks of corn in the North Central or Corn Belt region totaled 1,243 million bushels--down 25 million from last year. The western States of this group had 46 million bushels less, the eastern 21 million more. Farm holdings in the North Atlantic States were 31 million bushels a little more than average. The 78 million bushels in the South Atlantic region were 27 million above last year but below average. Stocks of 120 million

bushels in the South Central States were close to double those of a year ago and the largest since 1951 but only 10 million above average. In the West, the 4.8 million bushels on hand were a little above any of the years since 1950.

OATS STOCKS ON FARMS: Stocks of oats stored on farms are estimated at 588 million bushels, the largest April 1 holdings of record. They are 7 percent larger than a year ago and 20 percent larger than the 10-year average. Current stocks include oats under CCC loans, purchase agreements and resealed. The quantity held on farms in these positions on March 15 represented about 10 percent of the April 1 total farm stocks. The large stocks of oats are attributed mostly to the record 1955 production as disappearance has been at near-record levels.

Farm stocks were substantially above average in all regions of the country, and also above last year's April 1 holdings everywhere except in the Western and South Central States. The heavy producing North Central States had 88 percent of the Nation's total farm stocks on April 1. In this group, stocks were above last year in 9 States and smaller only in South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas. Iowa, with 103.3 million, and Minnesota with 95.0 million bushels, led all other States.

Disappearance of oats from farms during the January 1 to April 1 period totaling 392.9 million bushels, is the second largest of record. It is 6 percent larger than last year and compares with the average of 337.4 million bushels.

SOYBEAN STOCKS ON FARMS: Soybean stocks on farms April 1 totaled 60 million bushels. These are the third highest April 1 stocks of record but are little more than one-half the record stocks on farms a year ago. The 10-year average for the same date is 42 million bushels.

Disappearance of soybeans from farms during the January-March quarter amounted to nearly 56 million bushels, higher than in any similar quarter since records began in 1943. Last year, disappearance for the same quarter amounted to only 35 million bushels. Movement from farms has been speeded by the active demand at increased prices during the quarter, especially during recent weeks. Considerable quantities of soybeans placed under CCC loan have already been redeemed.

Farm stocks of soybeans in the heavy producing North Central area are estimated at 53 million bushels, less than half those on hand a year ago. Illinois had the largest farm stocks with about 14 million bushels, followed by Minnesota with nearly 10 million and Iowa with almost 9 million bushels. Farm stocks in the South Atlantic and South Central States amounted to less than 7 million bushels, however, these are larger than a year ago. The heavier stocks in these areas were due to a much larger production in 1955 since the percentage of the crop remaining on farms was less than for the 1954 crop. A review of the individual States indicates that there should be ample supplies on farms to meet expected seed requirements,

RYE: The condition of rye, reported at 82 percent of normal on April 1, is 1 point below a year ago and 4 points below average for this time of the year. The current condition is the same as reported last December, as improved crop prospects in the West North Central and South Central Regions were offset by declining prospects in the other regions. Compared with the 10-year average, April 1 rye condition was below in all the North Atlantic, North Central and Western States, except New York, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Idaho and New Mexico. In the South Atlantic and South Central States, it was equal to or above average in all States except Virginia, West Virginia, Oklahoma and Texas. In West North Central and the Plains States, where much of the acreage for grain is located, winter conditions were generally severe and, although much of the fall sown grains received sufficient snow cover, soil moisture is still inadequate. Unseasonally cold weather has delayed growth in most other rye producing States although moisture is adequate in most areas. Acreage seeded to rye last fall, estimated at 4,646,000 acres, was 8 percent less than a year earlier but nearly one-third more than average.

RYE STOCKS ON FARMS: Farm stocks of rye on April 1 are estimated at 11.2 million bushels. This is about 40 percent more than the 8.0 million bushels on farms a year earlier, almost three times as large as the 10-year average, and the largest since 1943. Rye stocks represent about 38 percent of the 1955 production. Disappearance of rye from farms during the January-March quarter was larger than for any comparable quarter since 1952. About four-fifths of the U. S. total rye stocks on farms April 1 were held in 4 States--North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Nebraska.

BARLEY STOCKS ON FARMS: Stocks of barley on farms April 1 are estimated at 115.8 million bushels compared with 116.7 million bushels a year ago and the April 1 average of 77.0 million bushels. About 64 percent of the current stocks were under CCC farm loan or purchase agreement on March 15 compared with 53 percent a year ago. Three-fifths of the U.S. stocks were in North Dakota, Montana and Minnesota. Stocks in North Dakota, at 35.3 million bushels, are 4.2 million bushels above a year ago. Montana stocks, at 22.6 million bushels, were slightly above a year earlier and Minnesota stocks, at 12.7 million bushels, were slightly under a year ago. California stocks, at 7.7 million bushels, were 2.8 million bushels below last April 1.

Disappearance of barley from farms during the January-March quarter was 73.7 million bushels--sharply up from the 48.5 million bushels for the comparable quarter a year ago and two-thirds larger than the average of 45.0 million bushels. This year's disappearance represents 19 percent of the 1955 production compared with the 10-year average disappearance of 17 percent of production.

FLAXSEED STOCKS ON FARMS: Stocks of flaxseed on farms April 1 are estimated at 7.8 million bushels. This is only slightly more than half the quantity held on farms a year earlier and about one-tenth less than average. Nearly all of these stocks--97 percent--were held by farmers in the Dakotas and Minnesota, with two-thirds of the total stocks stored on North Dakota farms.

Disappearance from farms during the January-March quarter totaled nearly 8.8 million bushels, the largest movement from farms during the period in the nine years of record. Favorable price increases since January 1 have exerted considerable influence on the movement of flaxseed from farms as evidenced by stocks in commercial storage at terminal markets on March 31 being sharply above the previous year.

CITRUS: The orange crop for the 1955-56 season is estimated at 131.5 million boxes—1 percent above last season and 18 percent above average. About 61 million boxes of oranges remained unharvested on April 1 of this year compared with about 57 million remaining a year earlier. These include about 22 million boxes of California Valencias which will be mostly harvested in the coming summer and fall. Harvest of Florida Valencias is usually completed soon after July 1 but will probably extend later than usual this season because of a considerable quantity of late bloom fruit.

The U. S. grapefruit crop is estimated at 46 million boxes—9 percent above the 1954-55 crop but 7 percent below average. About 12.7 million boxes of grapefruit remained to be harvested on April 1 compared with 11.5 million a year earlier.

California lemons are forecast at 13.5 million boxes compared with the 1954-55 crop of 14 million boxes and the 10-year average of 13 million boxes.

Florida citrus trees and fruit are in fair to good condition despite a serious shortage of rainfall—about one-half of normal so far this year. Irrigation has been extensive where water has been available. Foliage in many groves not irrigated is beginning to wilt. About 34 million boxes of Florida oranges remained for harvest on April 1, which was about 5 million more than last season on the same date. Processors have used about the same amount as last season but fresh markets have taken about 2 million boxes less. About 9.6 million boxes of Florida grapefruit were unharvested on April 1 this year compared with 8.4 million remaining a year earlier. Processors and fresh markets each took more fruit than to the same date last season but the crop is 4 million boxes larger this season.

Texas trees continued in good condition through March and are carrying a good set of new-crop fruit. Supplies of water for irrigation are low and must be replenished if trees are to receive adequate moisture in May and June. Harvest of old-crop fruit is nearly completed.

Arizona citrus crops are turning out slightly smaller than in 1954-55. Prospects are fair to good for the 1956-57 crops.

California's weather during March was only fair for citrus crops. There was very little rainfall and dry winds depleted soil moisture. Some frosts occurred during the month but citrus sustained very little damage. The navel orange crop is only slightly smaller than last season but utilization to April 1, at 9.8 million boxes, was 2 million less than last season to the same date. Movement is expected to continue through April from Central California and through May from Southern California. A very few Valencia oranges have been harvested in the Desert Valleys.

Harvest in the San Joaquin Valley is expected to begin soon. The lemon crop is smaller than either of the two previous seasons but movement to April 1 and quantity in storage are greater than in either of the previous seasons to April 1. About 1/3 million boxes of grapefruit have been harvested out of a total of 2.4 million. More than half of this crop will move during early summer.

PEACHES: Prospects for the 1956 peach crop in the 10 Southern States were reduced sharply by freeze damage in March. Reported condition as of April 1 averaged 53 percent for the 10 States, compared with 2 percent in 1955, 61 percent in 1954 and the 10-year average of 71 percent. Below-average crops are in prospect for all of the Southern States except Florida, Arkansas and Oklahoma.

Most of the freeze damage occurred on the morning of March 21 when temperatures dropped several degrees below freezing in most peach areas in South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. In North Carolina, a later freeze on March 25 caused most of the damage. A heavy set of fruit was on the trees at the time of the freeze. In all of these States, the damage was spotty with the heaviest losses in orchards on low, flat land. Many orchards with good air drainage are still expected to produce fairly good crops.

In Arkansas, a good crop is in prospect in all peach areas. In Oklahoma, low temperatures on March 12-17 caused some damage but an above-average peach crop is expected. In Texas, several peach areas suffered considerable freeze damage on March 8 and 12.

EARLY COMMERCIAL POTATOES: The production of early spring commercial potatoes in Florida and Texas is forecast at 5,748,000 bushels, 8 percent less than the 1955 crop of 6,252,000 bushels but 33 percent more than average. The Florida crop is indicated at 5,712,000 bushels with 5,040,000 bushels in the Hastings area. The Texas production is placed at 36,000 bushels. In Florida, the March 26 frost was more severe than indicated earlier. About 15 percent of the Hastings acreage is not expected to make much of a recovery. The dry weather has also been a factor in the development of the 1956 crop. Harvest of the early acreage is underway. In Texas, growing conditions have been favorable and harvest of the small crop is expected during the latter half of April.

The late spring commercial acreage is estimated at 116,750 acres, 8 percent less than the 1955 crop and 23 percent less than average. California with 63,000 acres in 1956 accounts for 54 percent of the late spring acreage. The decline of 6,000 acres in California made up the bulk of the 9,750 acres reduction for the seasonal group. The crop in California has been developing under generally favorable conditions, although some frost damage has been reported. Stands are generally good. Light digging has already started and some commercial shipments are expected during the second week of April. The Alabama crop in 1956 is down 34 percent from the acreage planted a year ago but only 300 acres less than the acreage harvested in 1955. The freeze in late March did very little damage in the Baldwin area and the crop is developing under favorable conditions.

In South Carolina, the vines were either cut back or badly singed by below-freezing temperatures around March 21. The crop is expected to make a fair recovery. In the San Antonio area of Texas, harvest is expected to start around the second week of May. The crop in this area has made good development. In some of the other areas, additional moisture is needed for average yields to be obtained. In Tennessee, a further decline in the Coffee-Franklin County acreage is indicated. Most of the plantings in this area were done during the last 10 days of March. The acreage in North Carolina is expected to be the same as in 1955. The crop was not up when the late March freezes occurred.

PASTURE: On April 1, pasture feed condition for the country averaged 73 percent of normal, 2 percentage points lower than in 1955 and the same as for April 1, 1954, but otherwise the poorest since 1940. The poor condition of pastures on April 1 was due to the shortage of moisture in the central and lower Great Plains and western part of the Corn Belt and the lingering cool weather over Southern and Western areas.

Condition of pastures in the South Central States improved considerably during March with the coming of higher temperatures but were still slightly poorer than on April 1 last year. The April 1 condition of pasture feed in the South Atlantic and South Central States was generally below average, but somewhat better than a year ago in the South Atlantic States. Fall-sown grains were furnishing pasture over most of the South.

Soils were very dry in sections of the Great Plains and the Corn Belt, and additional rainfall is needed to benefit pastures. Pastures in the West North Central region were in the poorest condition for April 1 since 1940, and considerably poorer than last year in Iowa, Missouri, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas. Condition of pastures in Texas was the second lowest on record dating back to 1924, while pastures in most other South Central States showed some improvement over April 1 a year earlier.

Pastures on the West Coast are now starting to grow. Condition declined during March in California due to lack of moisture but pastures were better than on April 1 last year. Cool weather limited grass growth in Oregon and Washington and pastures in the whole Pacific Northwest were below average for the date.

Soil moisture supplies are generally ample in the northern and eastern parts of the country and prospects for grazing are relatively good with the coming of warmer weather. In the North Atlantic region, pasture condition on April 1 was the same as last year and average, while lagging slightly in the East North Central States. With normal precipitation, these pastures should supply ample green feed as the season advances although presently are furnishing little feed.

MILK PRODUCTION: Production of milk on farms during March totaled 11,024 million pounds -- 5 percent above March last year and 13 percent above the 1945-54 average for the month. Relatively cold wet weather prevailed during March over much of the country east of the Mississippi River, in most West North Central States, and in the Pacific Northwest. Milk production was at the rate of 2.14 pounds per capita per day, 4 percent above the rate of March a year ago and 2 percent above the 10-year average.

Milk production per cow in crop reporters' herds on April 1 averaged 19.93 pounds, 5 percent above the previous high for the date last year and 18 percent above the average. The heavy milk flow per cow was encouraged by a record high rate of grain and concentrate feeding. Seasonally, production per cow increased 5 percent from March 1 to April 1 as compared with an average gain of 7 percent. Output per milk cow was at a record high level for April 1 in all regions of the country. Compared with a year earlier, production per cow on April 1 ranged from about 1 percent above in the West to nearly 6 percent above in the East and West North Central regions. Output per cow was well above average with increases ranging from 10 percent in the West to 22 percent in the South Atlantic States. The proportion of cows milked in crop reporters' herds on April 1 averaged 74.5 percent for the country as a whole, about 1 percent higher than the previous record for April 1 set a year earlier.

Among the 33 States with monthly milk production estimates available, March output equaled or exceeded the record high for the month in 15 States. On the other hand, production was relatively low for March in Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, Oklahoma, and Texas. Wisconsin, as usual, led all States in total milk production with 1,589 million pounds, followed by Minnesota with 969 million, California with 623 million, and Pennsylvania with 595 million pounds -- all record highs for the month.

Monthly Milk Production on Farms, Selected States, March 1956
with Comparisons 1/

(In millions of pounds)

State	March average 1945-54	March 1955	Feb. 1956	March 1956	State	March average 1945-54	March 1955	Feb. 1956	March 1956
N. J.	96	107	95	105	Ga.	96	106	97	106
Pa.	474	566	507	595	Ky.	161	176	166	190
Ohio	417	482	465	526	Tenn.	168	180	158	187
Ind.	293	325	298	339	Ala.	103	95	92	101
Ill.	439	436	413	448	Miss.	113	127	110	125
Mich.	443	455	418	489	Ark.	94	94	79	90
Wis.	1,346	1,499	1,410	1,589	Okla.	168	149	138	150
Minn.	808	849	861	969	Tex.	287	258	235	263
Iowa	510	501	468	534	Mont.	45	41	35	40
Mo.	296	315	284	328	Idaho	104	126	113	132
N. Dak.	141	152	137	159	Wyo.	20	16	15	17
S. Dak.	115	113	108	118	Utah	56	60	56	62
Nebr.	188	185	164	189	Wash.	142	146	128	145
Kans.	214	202	181	209	Oreg.	97	97	76	95
Va.	138	152	133	149	Calif.	526	618	530	623
W. Va.	58	63	56	65	Other				
N. C.	120	135	125	137	States	1,417	1,609	1,384	1,627
S. C.	46	51	47	53	U. S.	9,739	10,486	9,582	11,024

1/ Monthly data for other States not yet available.

GRAIN AND OTHER CONCENTRATES FED TO MILK COWS: Grain and concentrate feeding

continued at record or near record levels as the feeding season passed its winter peak in most parts of the country. On April 1, crop reporters fed an average of 6.72 pounds of grains and concentrates per milk cow - 5 percent above last year's previous high and 12 percent above the 1945-54 average.

Cold, damp weather in the northern and eastern parts of the country and less than average available pasture feed in the South contributed to the heavy feeding of grain and concentrates. Although the amount of grain fed per cow usually increases from February 1 to April 1, it held about steady this year due to the very high rate of feeding on February 1.

Regionally, the amount of grain fed per milk cow on April 1 was the highest on record for all major geographic divisions of the country except the West. The average amount fed per milk cow ranged from 7.9 pounds in the North Atlantic States to 5.5 pounds in the West. Other feeding rates were 7.4 pounds in the East North Central region; 6.9 pounds, West North Central; 5.9, South Atlantic; and 5.6 pounds in the South Central. This year, 88 percent of the farmers reported feeding some grain or other concentrates to their milk cows, about the same as on April 1 in each of the 4 previous years except 1954 when it was slightly higher.

The value per 100 pounds of grain and concentrate rations fed to milk cows in March was 9 percent below the year earlier and the lowest for the month since 1946. Ration values averaged \$3.01 per hundredweight in milk-selling areas and \$2.61 in cream-selling areas. The March milk-feed price ratio was the highest for the month since 1946, 11 percent above last year, and 5 percent above the 1935-54 average. The butterfat-feed price ratio was up 11 percent from last year and the highest March ratio in 4 years, but still 6 percent below the longtime average.

POULTRY AND EGG PRODUCTION: Farm flocks laid 5,770 million eggs in March - 1 percent more than in March last year, but 7 percent less than the 1945-54 average. Egg production compared with a year ago increased 3 percent in the South Central, 2 percent in the East North Central and South Atlantic and 1 percent in the North Atlantic States. Production showed no change in the West and decreased 2 percent in the West North Central. Production in the first quarter of this year was 1 percent above last year, about equal to the average.

The rate of egg production in March was 18.3 eggs per layer, compared with 18.0 last year and the average of 17.4 eggs. The rate was above last year in all parts of the country except the North Atlantic, where it was the same. Increases were 4 percent in the South Central, 3 percent in the West North Central, 2 percent in the South Atlantic and 1 percent in the East North Central and the West. The rate of lay for the first quarter of this year was 49.7 eggs, compared with 48.3 last year and the average of 43.6 eggs. The decrease in layers from January 1 to April 1 this year was 7.1 percent, compared with 9.2 percent last year and the average of 8.7 percent. On April 1, there was 1 percent fewer layers on hand than a year earlier.

Chicks and young chickens of this year's hatch on farms April 1 are estimated at about 178 million - 5 percent above last year. Young chicken holdings were above a year earlier in all regions of the country except the West where it was down 5 percent. Increases from a year ago were 9 percent in the West North Central, 8 percent in the South Atlantic, 7 percent in the South Central, 6 percent in the East North Central and 1 percent in the North Atlantic States. April 1 is too early in the season to determine the size of the chicken crop. This year the hatch appears to be early, which is in sharp contrast to last year's very late hatch. In February, farmers reported their intentions to purchase 3 percent more chicks than in 1955.

Hens and pullets of laying age, chicks and young chickens
and eggs laid per 100 layers on farms, April 1

Year	: North : Atlantic	: E. North : Central	: W. North : Central	: South : Atlantic	: South : Central	: Western : Western	: United : States
------	-----------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	-----------------------	----------------------	------------------------	----------------------

Hens and pullets of laying age on farms, April 1

	<u>Thousands</u>						
1945-54 (Av.)	51,151	67,992	100,918	33,015	61,407	34,295	348,778
1955	53,192	60,577	88,042	30,303	44,917	35,321	312,352
1956	53,514	60,905	83,852	30,759	44,931	34,943	308,904

Chicks and young chickens on farms, April 1

	<u>Thousands</u>						
1945-54 (Av.)	37,855	40,939	43,939	27,294	42,032	19,220	211,279
1955	35,273	38,252	33,677	19,544	24,605	18,540	169,891
1956	35,774	40,397	36,601	21,204	26,337	17,591	177,904

Eggs laid per 100 layers on farms, April 1

	<u>Number</u>						
1945-54 (Av.)	59.7	59.8	60.5	57.6	57.9	59.3	59.3
1955	58.8	60.5	62.8	60.7	58.8	60.9	60.7
1956	57.8	60.4	63.6	59.7	59.7	61.5	60.8

Prices received by farmers for eggs in mid-March averaged 39.6 cents a dozen, compared with 39.7 in mid-March last year. The Easter and Pass-over holidays influenced shell egg trading during March. Prices, particularly for white eggs, advanced during the buying periods for these holidays, but generally declined as requirements were filled.

Farmers received an average of 21.6 cents per pound live weight for chickens (farm chickens and commercial broilers) in mid-March, compared with 27.8 cents in mid-March last year. Farm chickens averaged 20.1 and commercial broilers 21.9 cents, compared with 20.9 cents and 29.7 cents, respectively, in mid-March last year. Markets for commercial broilers or fryers were generally steady during March, with offerings ample for the fair to good demand. Price changes during the month were minor. There was an increased demand for best quality offerings of hens late in the month preceding the Hebrew holidays and heaviest sizes showed higher prices. In the Far-West and Mid-West, advances were mostly a cent a pound, while raises of as much as 5 cents a pound were noted at New York City.

Turkey prices on March 15 averaged 32.1 cents a pound live weight, compared with 30.4 cents a year earlier. Pre-Easter buying for family sizes of turkeys stimulated demand for young hen turkeys and fryer-roaster turkeys during the middle of March. Prices of young hens showed only minor changes during the month, but fryer-roasters were 1 to 3 cents a pound higher. An active buying interest for heavy young toms developed during the month. Prices for young toms were unchanged to as much as 3 cents a pound higher as compared to last month's closing prices, with heaviest sizes showing the largest price gains.

The average cost of the farm poultry ratios in mid-March was \$3.42 per 100 pounds, compared with \$3.76 a year earlier. The egg-feed, farm chicken-feed, and turkey-feed ratios were all more favorable than a year earlier. The commercial broiler feed ratio was less favorable.

State	Winter wheat			Rye		
	Production			Condition April 1		
	Average	1955	Indicated	Average	1955	1956
	1945-54	1955	1956	1945-54	1955	1956
	1,000	1,000	1,000			
	bu.	bu.	bu.	Percent	Percent	Percent
N.Y.	10,450	10,400	10,060	91	90	91
N.J.	1,794	1,530	1,260	90	88	89
Pa.	19,880	16,536	14,432	88	87	84
Ohio	52,516	43,993	39,600	90	90	87
Ind.	35,500	33,988	30,200	91	92	84
Ill.	36,176	51,220	41,400	92	95	87
Mich.	32,232	28,914	31,170	92	94	92
Wis.	723	636	576	90	90	94
Minn.	1,466	858	740	88	90	91
Iowa	3,781	3,040	2,278	90	93	83
Mo.	28,114	49,632	40,898	89	91	80
N. Dak.	---	---	---	82	80	80
S. Dak.	4,952	5,610	5,838	83	87	75
Nebr.	79,480	78,025	66,348	86	85	80
Kans.	202,869	128,385	143,195	82	73	76
Del.	1,110	858	748	92	86	92
Md.	5,828	4,744	4,255	90	88	91
Va.	7,554	6,502	5,859	90	85	86
W. Va.	1,344	874	738	88	84	87
N. C.	7,079	7,172	8,624	88	84	90
S. C.	2,982	2,978	3,458	82	78	86
Ga.	2,125	1,520	1,904	81	79	85
Ky.	4,849	4,020	4,500	89	90	90
Tenn.	4,141	3,417	3,795	87	80	87
Ala.	255	1,007	2,380	---	---	---
Miss.	369	286	435	---	---	---
Ark.	636	1,404	1,650	---	---	---
Okla.	77,872	23,784	60,252	77	58	73
Texas	50,246	13,464	28,314	70	61	52
Mont.	29,470	54,756	35,891	84	85	82
Idaho	20,220	19,800	19,248	90	83	99
Wyo.	4,658	4,066	5,202	65	86	83
Colo.	40,457	16,237	30,663	80	52	74
N. Mex.	2,612	1,500	1,350	75	72	75
Ariz.	598	1,218	1,144	---	---	---
Utah	5,427	4,272	4,656	91	86	81
Nev.	124	50	78	---	---	---
Wash.	59,946	51,500	39,774	91	76	69
Oreg.	21,472	18,524	16,560	93	76	83
Calif.	11,328	8,652	6,984	78	76	72
U.S.	872,635	705,372	716,427	86	83	82

Flaxseed: Stocks on farms on April 1			
State	Average 1948-54	1955	1956
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
Minnesota	2,564	2,053	1,522
North Dakota	4,487	9,302	5,103
South Dakota	1,374	2,089	937
Other States	333	302	125
United States	8,759	13,746	7,757

Grain stocks on farms on April 1

State	Corn for grain			Wheat		
	Average	1955	1956	Average	1955	1956
	1945-54	1945-54	1945-54	1945-54	1945-54	1945-54
	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
Maine	14	5	5	---	---	---
N.H.	36	31	36	---	---	---
Vt.	42	38	42	---	---	---
Mass.	107	88	110	---	---	---
R.I.	16	12	17	---	---	---
Conn.	112	94	64	---	---	---
N.Y.	3,552	4,722	5,044	2,452	3,983	3,224
N.J.	3,256	3,749	1,739	276	309	230
Pa.	23,245	27,324	24,280	3,740	2,771	2,315
Ohio	72,115	112,789	106,575	6,655	9,702	6,159
Ind.	102,290	127,530	142,701	2,618	9,531	5,098
Ill.	215,876	245,442	274,186	2,420	9,393	7,683
Mich.	26,668	40,991	38,568	7,129	8,508	4,626
Wis.	31,122	51,071	36,407	842	579	493
Minn.	95,017	135,787	159,358	6,610	4,774	4,325
Iowa	285,181	340,676	304,940	477	314	264
Mo.	63,258	30,971	70,666	2,160	7,236	3,971
N.Dak.	3,552	4,425	5,202	59,446	34,637	52,202
S.Dak.	45,993	57,337	42,160	18,229	12,694	12,671
Nebr.	109,336	107,251	53,122	13,690	17,871	19,564
Kans.	25,413	13,962	8,915	31,233	31,717	14,122
Del.	2,038	1,698	1,476	53	34	26
Md.	6,599	5,904	4,543	412	199	213
Va.	14,522	9,101	9,047	1,061	693	618
W.Va.	3,330	3,303	2,317	336	329	192
N.C.	26,708	17,098	26,144	1,100	1,204	789
S.C.	10,572	3,671	12,221	194	123	149
Ga.	16,401	8,273	20,016	215	114	106
Fla.	1,571	1,706	1,801	---	---	---
Ky.	29,681	28,098	34,132	293	594	281
Tenn.	22,372	12,252	21,746	371	257	205
Ala.	16,665	7,396	24,416	20	26	30
Miss.	15,039	8,254	16,728	29	188	14
Ark.	7,960	1,788	6,363	63	98	84
La.	4,276	2,873	5,741	---	---	---
Okla.	4,570	608	1,589	4,094	2,831	714
Texas	10,082	5,053	9,734	3,018	618	269
Mont.	78	65	79	27,848	26,507	52,572
Idaho	360	480	675	5,319	4,344	4,860
Wyo.	53	54	164	1,864	589	780
Colo.	2,624	2,051	1,726	8,442	3,710	3,797
N.Mex.	442	310	224	328	64	142
Ariz.	155	188	292	40	24	61
Utah	28	47	32	1,711	995	1,330
Nev.	---	---	---	111	98	56
Wash.	86	512	832	5,769	7,969	8,286
Oreg.	178	344	211	2,988	4,391	4,599
Calif.	283	321	579	1,053	1,574	1,730
U.S.	1,302,876	1,425,743	1,476,965	224,708	211,592	218,850

Grain stocks on farms on April 1

State	Oats			Soybeans		
	Average 1945-54	1955	1956	Average 1945-54	1955	1956
	bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.	bu.
Maine	1,192	1,171	946	---	---	---
N.H.	72	38	18	---	---	---
Vt.	399	202	220	---	---	---
Mass.	51	23	17	---	---	---
Conn.	48	58	40	---	---	---
N.Y.	9,584	8,604	9,841	28	26	24
N.J.	429	605	454	84	137	109
Pa.	9,302	12,028	12,617	128	70	71
Ohio	14,915	19,839	24,843	4,421	11,586	5,530
Ind.	14,642	17,358	22,565	5,812	15,684	7,848
Ill.	44,009	45,267	53,222	12,602	30,285	14,071
Mich.	20,536	22,199	28,997	490	1,147	1,034
Wis.	50,177	48,388	56,968	162	331	328
Minn.	79,690	81,758	95,015	3,315	16,072	9,484
Iowa	85,274	99,660	103,284	8,098	21,900	8,563
Mo.	11,794	18,558	18,736	2,506	7,987	4,218
N.Dak.	33,114	29,836	30,307	58	296	375
S.Dak.	47,812	60,299	55,370	202	1,401	773
Nebr.	22,083	25,941	20,154	105	1,338	270
Kans.	6,793	9,784	8,373	514	710	510
Del.	32	79	86	208	250	126
Md.	367	739	808	216	440	186
Va.	917	1,485	1,252	390	522	579
W.Va.	612	702	603	---	---	---
N.C.	2,080	3,671	3,326	810	614	1,063
S.C.	2,011	2,862	3,003	168	318	519
Ga.	1,584	1,486	2,009	64	81	137
Fla.	33	54	48	1/4	24	63
Ky.	465	1,194	1,056	307	410	499
Tenn.	861	1,247	1,138	268	308	366
Ala.	402	557	858	72	60	139
Miss.	1,047	3,758	3,072	498	519	1,496
Ark.	908	1,685	2,234	533	1,348	1,469
La.	305	232	770	48	42	99
Okla.	3,455	2,905	2,400	38	5	31
Texas	5,380	7,030	3,916	---	3	2
Mont.	6,154	7,248	7,631	---	---	---
Idaho	2,462	2,746	2,608	---	---	---
Wyo.	2,232	1,716	2,018	---	---	---
Colo.	2,530	1,670	1,856	---	---	---
N.Mex.	164	89	102	---	---	---
Ariz.	93	99	110	---	---	---
Utah	801	752	688	---	---	---
Nev.	95	86	49	---	---	---
Wash.	1,727	2,004	1,833	---	---	---
Oreg.	2,479	3,505	2,478	---	---	---
Calif.	143	353	338	---	---	---
U.S.	491,266	551,570	588,277	42,153	113,914	59,982
1/Short-time average.						

Grain stocks on farms on April 1

State	Barley			Rye		
	Average 1945-54	1955	1956	Average 1945-54	1955	1956
	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
Maine	43	32	17	---	---	---
N.Y.	771	512	760	28	30	20
N.J.	114	227	136	24	27	15
Pa.	1,239	2,024	2,109	75	44	60
Ohio	124	559	500	63	281	203
Ind.	124	346	559	73	318	269
Ill.	170	449	952	61	302	286
Mich.	1,277	1,011	1,099	210	283	120
Wis.	1,790	853	441	252	171	176
Minn.	8,210	12,903	12,734	324	600	756
Iowa	216	213	191	35	25	45
Mo.	289	1,298	2,080	36	107	78
N. Dak.	20,468	31,083	35,288	714	3,055	5,616
S. Dak.	10,785	6,198	4,095	867	1,427	2,207
Nebr.	2,829	1,890	1,760	472	558	660
Kans.	1,470	2,270	2,972	73	150	97
Del.	50	61	48	8	12	4
Md.	415	850	704	14	23	9
Va.	561	756	808	43	29	19
W. Va.	74	140	116	6	3	3
N. C.	201	368	248	28	27	33
S. C.	37	52	55	7	7	13
Ga.	10	11	13	5	5	7
Ky.	201	443	460	19	44	8
Tenn.	151	180	187	18	13	15
Ark.	15	47	66	---	---	---
Okla.	340	533	466	61	138	64
Texas	409	345	249	25	34	13
Mont.	7,812	22,332	22,631	58	43	182
Idaho	3,087	4,141	3,686	10	8	9
Wyo.	1,642	1,344	1,698	20	15	31
Colo.	4,514	2,049	2,662	67	83	71
N. Mex.	102	79	105	5	4	9
Ariz.	293	1,533	790	---	---	---
Utah	1,779	2,317	2,259	16	10	16
Nev.	188	132	84	---	---	---
Wash.	828	3,240	2,379	28	65	49
Oreg.	1,616	3,415	2,683	98	62	78
Calif.	2,756	10,485	7,694	6	18	4
U.S.	77,021	116,721	115,784	3,850	8,021	11,245

Pasture							
Condition April 1				Condition April 1			
State	Average	1955	1956	State	Average	1955	1956
	1945-54				1945-54		
	Percent	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent	Percent
Maine	90	92	97	N.C.	85	71	82
N.H.	95	97	99	S.C.	75	68	77
Vt.	94	95	95	Ga.	77	66	76
Mass.	94	90	91	Fla.	75	62	58
R.I.	92	98	96	Ky.	81	79	79
Conn.	92	94	97	Tenn.	80	71	79
N.Y.	88	89	88	Ala.	75	62	72
N.J.	86	80	77	Miss.	75	65	70
Pa.	87	83	84	Ark.	73	66	71
Ohio	86	86	82	La.	77	69	71
Ind.	86	84	85	Okla.	72	51	58
Ill.	87	85	81	Tex.	68	56	47
Mich.	91	92	90	Mont.	82	77	81
Wis.	88	92	91	Idaho	89	80	92
Minn.	88	89	87	Wyo.	82	52	79
Iowa	90	88	71	Colo.	76	48	66
Mo.	81	72	65	N.Mex.	68	52	68
N.Dak.	79	77	74	Ariz.	83	73	75
S.Dak.	86	80	66	Utah	87	82	83
Nebr.	85	77	67	Nev.	87	78	95
Kans.	83	69	62	Wash.	84	71	65
Del.	88	80	84	Oreg.	83	70	70
Md.	85	79	81	Calif.	75	64	72
Va.	84	70	75	U.S.	82	75	73
W.Va.	81	78	74				

Peaches					
Condition April 1					
State	Average	1953	1954	1955	1956
	1945-54				
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
N.C.	78	87	73	2	57
S.C.	74	75	71	1	50
Ga.	74	85	79	1	42
Fla.	64	85	50	15	65
Ala.	67	82	72	1	50
Miss.	64	79	40	4	53
Ark.	69	87	41	2	79
La.	68	79	42	5	48
Okla.	58	79	25	3	64
Texas	59	65	18	4	43
10 States	71	80	61	2	53

Citrus fruits

Crop and State	Production 1/			
	Average 1944-53	1953	1954	Indicated 1955
	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes
ORANGES:				
Calif., all	44,479	32,400	39,140	37,000
Navels and Misc. 2/	16,419	14,460	15,340	15,000
Valencias	28,060	17,940	23,800	22,000
Fla., all	63,090	91,300	88,400	91,700
Temples	1,129	2,200	2,500	2,800
Other Early and Midseason	33,601	48,000	49,500	48,900
Valencias	28,360	41,100	36,400	40,000
Texas, all	2,946	900	1,500	1,600
Early & Midseason 2/	1,882	675	1,100	1,150
Valencias	1,064	225	400	450
Ariz., all	1,024	1,170	1,130	1,000
Navels & Misc, 2/	518	550	510	350
Valencias	505	620	620	650
La., all 2/	257	100	175	215
5 States 3/	111,726	125,870	130,345	131,515
Total Early & Midseason 4/	53,807	65,985	69,125	68,415
Total Valencias	57,988	59,885	61,220	63,100
TANGERINES:				
Fla.	4,550	5,000	5,100	4,600
All oranges and tangerines:				
5 States 3/	116,346	130,870	135,445	136,115
GRAPEFRUIT:				
Fla., all	31,440	42,000	34,800	39,000
Seedless	14,960	21,900	20,500	22,000
Other	16,480	20,100	14,300	17,000
Texas, all	11,980	1,200	2,500	2,200
Ariz., all	3,119	2,670	2,470	2,400
Calif., all	2,723	2,500	2,400	2,400
Desert Valleys	1,046	1,050	900	900
Other	1,677	1,450	1,500	1,500
4 States 3/	42,262	48,370	42,170	46,000
LEMONS:				
Calif. 3/	13,001	16,130	14,000	13,500
LIMES:				
Fla. 3/	248	370	380	400
April 1 forecast of 1956 Florida limes				380

1/ Season begins with the bloom of the year shown and ends with the completion of harvest the following year. In California picking usually extends from about Oct. 1 to Dec. 31 of the following year. In other States the season begins about Oct. 1 and ends in early summer except for Florida limes, harvest of which usually starts about April 1. For some States in certain years, production includes some quantities donated to charity, unharvested, and/or not utilized on account of economic conditions.

2/ Includes small quantities of tangerines. 3/ Net content of box varies. In Calif. and Arizona the approximate average for oranges is 77 lb. and grapefruit 65 lb. in the Desert Valleys; 68 lb. for California grapefruit in other areas; in Florida and other States, oranges, including tangerines, 90 lb. and grapefruit 80 lb.; California lemons, 79 lb.; Florida limes, 80 lb.

4/ In California and Arizona, Navels and Miscellaneous.

Milk produced and "grain" fed per milk cow in herds kept by reporters 1/						
State	Milk produced per milk cow			"Grain" fed per milk cow 2/		
and	Apr. 1, Av.	April 1,	April 1,	Apr. 1, Av.	April 1,	April 1,
Division	1945-54	1955	1956	1945-54	1955	1956
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Maine	15.5	18.7	20.2	6.1	7.1	7.2
N.H.	18.6	21.9	21.3	5.8	6.4	6.1
Vt.	18.5	20.7	22.0	6.2	6.3	6.8
Mass.	19.3	22.9	23.1	6.6	6.8	6.9
Conn.	19.6	23.3	24.3	6.6	7.3	7.9
N.Y.	22.4	24.4	25.3	7.4	7.9	7.9
N.J.	22.5	25.1	24.0	8.3	8.4	8.3
Pa.	20.7	23.2	24.5	8.0	8.1	8.4
N.Atl.	20.85	23.39	24.36	7.3	7.7	7.9
Ohio	17.8	21.6	23.2	6.8	7.0	7.6
Ind.	16.5	19.9	20.3	6.4	7.3	7.5
Ill.	18.1	20.9	21.4	7.4	7.9	7.5
Mich.	20.9	22.4	24.0	7.0	7.0	7.3
Wis.	21.4	22.8	24.4	6.8	6.9	7.4
E.N.Cent.	19.78	22.08	23.32	6.9	7.1	7.4
Minn.	22.1	24.1	25.8	6.7	7.1	7.5
Iowa	18.0	19.8	21.9	7.9	7.7	7.9
Mo.	12.3	14.3	15.2	5.3	6.0	6.3
N.Dak.	16.0	18.4	19.2	5.3	6.1	6.3
S.Dak.	14.1	16.4	17.2	4.9	5.4	5.2
Nebr.	16.9	19.1	19.6	6.1	6.3	5.7
Kans.	16.6	18.8	19.5	5.8	6.6	7.0
W.N.Cent.	17.28	19.54	20.64	6.3	6.7	6.9
Md.	17.7	19.9	21.5	7.6	8.5	8.0
Va.	14.1	17.3	16.9	5.5	5.4	5.9
W.Va.	11.0	12.6	13.1	4.2	4.5	4.8
N.C.	12.9	15.8	16.6	5.5	6.0	6.1
S.C.	11.7	13.0	14.8	3.9	4.1	5.5
Ga.	10.0	11.6	11.9	4.3	5.1	5.6
S.Atl.	12.89	15.19	15.70	5.1	5.7	5.9
Ky.	11.8	13.4	13.9	5.6	5.8	6.5
Tenn.	11.3	12.1	13.6	4.9	5.5	5.7
Ala.	9.4	9.3	10.3	4.6	4.7	6.2
Miss.	8.1	10.2	8.5	3.5	4.1	4.7
Ark.	8.4	11.0	10.7	3.8	4.9	5.7
La.	7.5	8.4	9.5	3.4	3.1	4.6
Okla.	11.4	14.0	14.1	4.5	5.3	5.5
Texas	9.5	10.2	10.1	4.4	5.0	5.3
S.Cent.	10.25	11.78	12.18	4.4	4.9	5.6
Mont.	15.7	16.8	17.2	4.2	4.7	4.7
Idaho	19.6	21.4	23.1	4.4	4.4	4.6
Wyo.	17.3	15.8	18.7	4.2	3.7	4.2
Colo.	15.5	20.0	19.1	5.3	5.8	5.9
Utah	19.9	22.3	23.8	4.5	5.0	5.4
Wash.	19.7	20.3	20.4	6.0	5.6	7.5
Oreg.	17.4	17.2	17.7	5.0	5.0	5.0
Calif.	21.5	25.6	24.2	4.9	6.2	5.1
West	19.21	20.94	21.08	5.0	5.6	5.5
U.S.	16.83	18.94	19.93	6.00	6.41	6.72

1/Figures for New England States and New Jersey represent combined crop and special dairy reporters; other States, regions, and U.S., crop reporters only. Regional figures include less important dairy States not shown separately.

2/Includes grain, millfeeds and other concentrates.

		March egg production							
State	Number of layers on:	Eggs per		Total eggs produced					
and	hand during March :	100 layers		During March : Jan.-Mar. incl.					
Division :	1955 : 1956 :	1955 :	1956 :	1955 :	1956 :	1955 :	1956 :	1955 :	1956 :
	Thousands	Thousands	Number	Number	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	
Maine	3,186	3,277	1,848	1,823	59	60	173	177	
N.H.	2,092	2,245	1,742	1,779	36	40	109	123	
Vt.	933	972	1,876	1,922	18	19	53	56	
Mass.	3,173	3,548	1,885	1,916	60	68	179	199	
R.I.	366	394	1,848	1,894	7	7	21	22	
Conn.	3,016	3,238	1,752	1,792	53	58	160	179	
N.Y.	10,500	10,014	1,748	1,755	184	176	541	520	
N.J.	12,888	13,426	1,736	1,699	224	228	618	637	
Pa.	18,316	17,825	1,722	1,823	328	325	943	944	
N.Atl.	54,470	54,939	1,779	1,786	969	981	2,797	2,857	
Ohio	12,439	12,784	1,792	1,826	223	233	638	655	
Ind.	11,777	12,596	1,872	1,866	220	235	629	657	
Ill.	16,778	16,092	1,798	1,857	302	299	820	831	
Mich.	8,776	8,474	1,755	1,739	154	147	445	445	
Wis.	12,364	12,416	1,761	1,789	218	222	637	646	
E.N.Cent.	62,134	62,362	1,798	1,822	1,117	1,136	3,169	3,234	
Minn.	22,526	20,528	1,807	1,860	407	382	1,196	1,158	
Iowa	25,089	24,765	1,931	1,953	484	484	1,384	1,373	
Mo.	12,120	11,381	1,755	1,863	213	212	561	558	
N.Dak.	3,335	3,382	1,624	1,640	54	55	149	148	
S.Dak.	7,264	7,220	1,795	1,835	130	132	353	367	
Nebr.	9,880	9,502	1,916	1,953	189	186	513	500	
Kans.	9,364	8,926	1,919	1,975	180	176	477	465	
W.N.Cent.	89,578	85,704	1,850	1,828	1,657	1,627	4,633	4,562	
Del.	701	733	1,826	1,860	13	14	35	37	
Md.	2,336	2,428	1,841	1,804	43	44	112	114	
Va.	5,076	4,567	1,786	1,817	91	83	237	219	
W.Va.	2,347	2,296	1,804	1,789	42	41	105	106	
N.C.	8,338	8,967	1,767	1,792	147	161	380	428	
S.C.	2,899	2,987	1,724	1,804	50	54	131	142	
Ga.	6,702	6,217	1,817	1,844	122	115	327	322	
Fla.	2,515	2,898	1,823	1,848	46	54	134	155	
S.Atl.	30,914	31,093	1,792	1,820	554	566	1,461	1,523	
Ky.	6,816	6,618	1,696	1,789	116	118	280	280	
Tenn.	6,439	6,297	1,631	1,702	105	107	254	260	
Ala.	4,619	4,707	1,674	1,730	77	81	201	214	
Miss.	3,818	3,900	1,612	1,643	62	64	157	161	
Ark.	3,480	3,735	1,606	1,789	56	67	135	159	
La.	2,361	2,346	1,674	1,696	40	40	96	100	
Okla.	4,826	4,824	1,810	1,879	87	91	227	230	
Texas	13,404	13,070	1,776	1,814	238	237	607	612	
S.Cent.	45,763	45,497	1,707	1,769	781	805	1,957	2,016	
Mont.	1,276	1,240	1,665	1,727	21	21	61	61	
Idaho	1,481	1,471	1,835	1,888	27	28	77	79	
Wyo.	426	391	1,798	1,748	8	7	22	19	
Colo.	1,877	1,809	1,745	1,829	33	33	90	89	
N.Mex.	628	604	1,764	1,649	11	10	29	28	
Ariz.	485	462	1,755	1,829	9	8	24	24	
Utah	2,028	1,830	1,776	1,705	36	31	99	87	
Nev.	115	117	1,714	1,690	2	2	6	6	
Wash.	3,929	4,342	1,823	1,903	72	83	219	245	
Oreg.	3,072	2,912	1,910	1,835	59	53	169	160	
Calif.	20,384	20,098	1,857	1,885	379	379	1,053	1,086	
West.	35,701	35,276	1,840	1,857	657	655	1,849	1,884	
U.S.	318,560	314,871	1,800	1,832	5,735	5,770	15,866	16,083	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Penalty for private use to avoid
payment of postage \$300.

DR. KARL S. QUISENBERRY
ASST. DIR. OF CROPS RESEARCH
AGRL. RESEARCH SERVICE, USDA
7-21-55
ML-B OFF. OF THE ADMIN.